

Houston

Samuel Houston in Dallas Co AL in 1818 so was James.

One Samuel Houston died in Madison Co AL 1810-19-

about 1816 Buried at Huntsville

Morgan Co AL

Esther H Houston buried Somerville AL Cemetery

Seated in 1816 no date

Marta Jane Houston Died 1828,

## MORE ON JOSEPH HOUSTON

While looking at the Board of Police (forerunner of the Board of Supervisors) Minutes, 1847-1852, page 5, the following was noted:

22 Feb. 1847

The board ordered the return of John S. Whitaker as overseer on the Upper Decatur Road and appointed John Greer as overseer. The road commenced at the 12 mile post (wherever that was) and working to the fork of the lower Decatur Road. The following were ordered to give volunteer work (about 8 days per year) for the upkeep of this road. Order issued on 3/10/1847 - Israel Wooten, John Trussell, Coleman Jolly, James Jolly, George Cooksey, Umphrey (Humphrey?) Wells, Joseph Houston, William Snowden, Valentine Martin, Carter Martin, Samuel Carter, John Kerb, Felman Hester, Eli and James Johnson.

The legend that Joseph Houston was farmed out comes to bear here. If he was so farmed out he would more than likely be in the household of one of the above listed men. He was about 16 years old in 1847.

On the 1850 Lauderdale County Ag. Schedule, Joseph Houston was next door to one Sarah Wells, who may have been the wife of the above Humphrey Wells. Please note that Joseph is listed next to the Wells above. (Neither the Wells or Joseph on the regular 1850 Lauderdale County Census). Joseph also worked on the road in 1848.

### 1840 Lauderdale County Personal Tax Roll

Josiah Houston paid 1 poll tax and tax on 5 slaves.

### 1840 Census of Lauderdale County, Mississippi

Humphrey Wells      1 male, 40 plus, one male 10 plus, one female 5 plus, 1 female 40 plus, (no Joseph)

The legend is that Joseph Houston was farmed out to a farmer when he was 12 years old. Joseph Houston born 1831. Would have been 12 years old in about 1843.

The Josiah Houston not on the 1840 Census for Lauderdale County or the 1850 Census. Point - Joseph Houston would not have been by himself at 16 years of age. He would have to be in someone's household. The legend that he was farmed out no doubt is true.

### 1853 Lauderdale County State Census

Mrs. Mary Houston      1 male      3 females

Circuit Court Record, Civil Case, Lauderdale County

Josiah Houston and his wife Eliza sued over a debt in 1840.

Sumter County, Alabama, Orphan Docket, 1/1845 - 3/1849

Court Term 1/1846 - Estate of Henry Houston. Nothing more. Book 7, September term 1845, Eliza Houston administrator of the estate of Henry Houston. (We have an Eliza Houston in Sumter County in 1836). Eliza, according to the court minutes had removed from the area of Sumter County, Alabama before settling the estate. One of the children was named Josiah. I did not check this out completely but it appeared that the court was attempting to bring in Josiah to settle the bills against the estate, etc .

Sumter County, Alabama

Samuel Houston in Sumter County in 1839. Witnessed a will. Alabama Records.

Lauderdale County, Mississippi

Samuel T. Houston in the county in November 1839.

Lauderdale County, Probate Docket 1838 - 1841

John Falls and Samuel T. Houston vs. John Keeton, Nathan P. Deen and Duncan Calhoun for the recovery of monies. (unable to locate this actual court vertical file).

Sumter County, Alabama Records, Vol. 117

Josiah Houston bond for marriage of Nancy Houston to William Overstreet 12/16/1835. This may have been his daughter.

I can find no further record on the Samuel T. Houston and Josiah disappears from the records after 1840. I have not found any record on the Mrs. Mary Houston with the two daughters and one son in 1853. She may have been Mary Elizabeth (Eliza), wife of Josiah.

There is no evidence nor legend that Joseph L. Houston had any brothers or sisters, therefore, it would appear that Joseph was not connected directly to Josiah.

Now the Samuel T., who was in Sumter County, Alabama in 1839 and then in November 1839 was in Lauderdale County, just may be the father of Joseph. In 1839 Joseph would have been about 8 years old. Legend has it that he said his father was Sam Houston, which may be true and it was this Samuel Houston and not the Sam Houston.

By Joseph Houston being in Lauderdale County in 1847 proves that the legend that he was farmed out to be true and the family he was farmed out to was most likely Humphrey Wells as he is next to or with this family in the 1847 and 1848 Board of Police Minutes and next to Sarah Wells on the 1850 Lauderdale County Ag. Schedule.

It probably is true that John C. Hamrick arranged this farming out and that the Samuel T. Houston or Joseph father was connected to John C. Hamrick in some way possible through service in the War of 1812.

In all probability Joseph was an only child, an orphan. There is also the possibility that he may have been illegitimate. Family legend has it that down through the years the family did not talk about the matter due to a fear of illegitimacy.

By Joseph being here in Lauderdale County in 1847, 1848 and 1850, we know that he did not go to Texas with an adopted family therefore the legend that he rode up to Thomas Hamrick's home looking for heirs of John Hamrick from Texas is untrue. He rode from the location of his adopted family to the Hamrick home. All he knew was the name of John Hamrick and he probably thought John C. Hamrick was deceased. Joseph never met John C. Hamrick until he was grown but somehow he knew that John C. Hamrick was involved in Joseph's being in Lauderdale County. He probably got some information from the Wells. Then he went looking for people that knew something about him and there are indications that he respected John C. Hamrick, who was all the so called family he Joseph had. For it is for sure John C. Hamrick knew who was the father of Joseph.

Over the years the story of Joseph being the son of Sam Houston (which may be true) developed and perhaps enlarged by each generation. I have found that in every piece of legend there is some truth. Such is the case here.

By Joseph not having any people indicates to the writer that he was unwanted and that he was cast off.

The legend that he was left with a farmer for a period of one year so as to be taught what he needed to know is false. Joseph's presence in the county in 1847 proves that point. He was never retrieved and he never went to Texas. He apparently never left the county.

Some of the legend had him as the child of Eliza Allen, Sam Houston's first wife. Joseph was born in August of 1830 so he was conceived in November of 1829 long after Sam and Eliza's separation in April of 1829. Joseph born in Tennessee in 1830 after the Sam Houston had left.

It would make a good story if in fact Eliza and Sam were together after their separation and Joseph was conceived and Eliza's prominent family hid Joseph but they would have hid him before he was 12 years old one would think.

We may never know for sure the names of the parents of Joseph Houston.

The Hamrick came to Lauderdale County, Mississippi from Monroe County, Alabama. This may be a lead to Joseph's parents. Another lead would be the name Luther. Joseph most likely was brought to Lauderdale County, Mississippi from Tennessee through Alabama. There are several Samuel's and other Houstons that need to be checked.

This has been a long procedure with lots of research involved but the writer is sure that Joseph Luther Houston was not the son of the Sam Houston.

The writer feels that Joseph's life in some respects was very sad and wonders why he was cast out at an early age. Joseph went on to do well in life and if he knew the real truth about his birth and younger years he perhaps carried that information with him to his grave after making up or implying a different heritage.

There is more evidence to prove Joseph is not the son of the Sam Houston than there is to prove he was the son of the Sam Houston.

Another theory would be that Joseph was farmed out after his mother expired and by the time the year was up his father was deceased and there was no one to retrieve him. Another thing is that both parents were deceased when he was farmed out. The third theory is that he was a child born out of wedlock and nobody wanted him. There is no document on file regarding his being farmed out.

In summary, I feel that Joseph Luther Houston's father was really a Samuel Houston, possibly the Samuel T. Houston we have in Sumter County, Alabama and Lauderdale County, Mississippi in 1839. This Samuel T. appears to have been a prominent man and more information is needed on him before going any further with this matter.

I finally got a clear copy of the  
1860 Census of Lauderdale Co MS ~~P. D. Johnson~~  
851-829 Huston J 28 from Tenn <sup>Personal Wealth</sup> \$2,000

The children at the time were

Columbus M 7 born MS 1853

Margaret 7 6 " ms 1854

John M 4 " ms 1856

Sissi 7 2 " " (Twins)

Celia 7 2 " "

There was a George DINGLER age 14 born MS 1846 in  
Joseph Household

He was next door to a T J Clay

T J Clay land in 1858 + 1878 was in Section 2 Township 8  
Range 18E - This put Joseph in the NE corner of Lauderdale  
County near Kenner Co line and the Alabama State line in  
1860 - NE of present day Lauderdale. This was an area of tough  
farms. By 1870 he was back in Sect 3 (his old area)

There is no record of Joseph owning land in NE Lauderdale Co  
so he must have been working at a trade other than farming and  
this may be where he got the money to purchase land in 1865.

In 1878 Joseph owned 240 acres in Section 23 + 26 in Township  
8 Range 14E valued at \$520.00 - NE of Collinville

Who was George Dingler?

The above indicates somewhat that Joseph had an  
occupation that was exempt from Confederate Service.

The Hancocks were on the Upper Decatur Road

2/1848 Sc Hester William Stokes Harry Roger

One son Hugh W Davidson

Second son Henry Davidson

(43)

He would have been in this area

Pinkney Robison in old Whig 1848

(1)

May 1848

1853 La C Co

Mrs Mary Houston 1 male 3 4 1 son 2 daug

Joseph Houston 1 2 3 ✓

1840

Josiah Houston 1 Poll - 5 slaves T x 3.50 ✓

Orphan Ordict 1/1845 - 3/1849 Smith Co

1/1846 Team estate of Henry Houston holding

Book 7 Sent Team 1848

Elijah Houston son of Henry Houston estate, one slave in Smith Co 1836

She removed from area before settling estate ✓

No Joseph. One Josiah - He settled the estate

one Josiah and Eliza his wife were in Franklin Co in 1840

as they were sued over debt. She was

Samuel Houston in Smith Co in 1839 Writen & a Will also record ✓

" T " " Franklin Co in Nov 1839 when he brought suit &

recove money Nov 1839 Part of Book 1838-41

Ewing, S. & Co., vs. Nathaniel Alston

Motion by plaintiff's attorney to set aside the non-suit in this cause on the ground of suppose. 6 day non-suit set aside. R. McElroy, Atty. for plaintiff. May 1840.

Ezell, Benjamin vs. Lucy Trahern (adm.)

Motion to quash the attachment in this case because there is no bond or affidavit filed and because the defendant is administratrix and sued as such and the return thereon is defective and said attachment is in many respects illegal and informal. Sustained. Heyfron & Swift, Atty. Arnio curiae. May 1838.

Ezell, Benjamin vs. William White

Motion by defendant's attorney to quash the attachment and proceedings in this cause for defects thereupon. Over ruled. This garnishment. R. McElroy, Atty. May 1838.

Falls & Houston vs. John Keeton, Nathan P. Deen and Duncan Calhoun

Motion in this case that the sheriff be required to amend his return on the writ according to the facts. Heyfron for motion. Nov. 1839.

Falls, John & Samuel T. Houston vs. John Keeton, Nathan P. Deen and Duncan Calhoun.

Motion by the said John Keeton for judgment against the sheriff of Lauderdale County for the sum of \$500, one half thereof for the use of said Keeton and the other half to the use and for the benefit of the Literary fund because said sheriff made a false return on the writ of caprias and respondendum that issued in said case in this, that he returned said writ executed on said Keeton per copy whereas in fact and in truth the endorsement in said writ is wholly different from the endorsement on the copy handed by said sheriff to said Keeton. Joseph Heyfron, Atty. for said motion. Nov. 1839.

Falls, John & Samuel T. Houston vs. John Keeton, Nathan P. Deen and Duncan Calhoun.

Motion for judgment against the sheriff of Lauderdale County, Samuel H. Cochran, for the sum of \$500, one half thereof for the use of said plaintiff and the other half for the benefit of the Literary Fund for the following cause, to wit: That said sheriff did not serve the writ of copias respondendum that was

Houston

One Samuel T Houston

in Land Co in 1839

Part of Date 1838 1841

Cale-South. X ~~Houston~~

~~check to Johnson~~  
" " ~~Household~~

Died Liberty 1887-90 ~~+89+~~ 2/1893 Recorded South

Houston

Fayone Johnson

Long

Millen

Zimmerman's

Smith John Wesley

Houston

Vol I 1833-1847

Fayone Benjamin F Hilt 1/15/1838

P 63

Luther G Jane 7 & Sende 8/21/1841-

333

Martha C Jane T Edder 11/1/1840

Mary E B Willam P McRae 10/14/1847

Nancy Willam married 12/16/1835 - Peter Day Jr

Fayon - Long

Martha Ann Thomas Nelson 8/24/1835-

Matthew Susan M Carpenter 6/17/1843

Fayon

Samuel Caroline Sanford 2/12/1845 - No Long

Miller

Andrew Martha Moseley 7/13/1841

Betty 7 Jim Slade 12/30/1845-

Mrs E A 2 G Ingram 8/30/1837

Edward Holly & Taylor 8/18/1835-

Esabell F Jane W cedar 12/15/1835

Jacob Sintller Egall 1/13/1835

Katherine Joel Endowment 1/1/1837  
Margaret & Joseph Nelson 8/11/1843  
Martha F. Isaac Richardson 7/8/1840  
Mary William + Dunn 3/28/1843  
Mary Ann Alexander & son Dale 12/4/1837  
Robert F. Cecily Halee 4/20/1841  
Sarah Edmund S Mc London 4/18/1844  
William E. Martha Ann Cogard 2/18/1838  
William L. Susan Wellington 9/21/1837

Mrs Zimmerman

Vol 2 1847-1868-

Houston

Amelia Wilson A May 5/16/1861 to  
Lang home  
Lydia  
Sonia C Daniel Brown 1/4/1857

Vol 3

A C Lang & Susan O'Keeffe 1/20/1872

Vol 4

Mrs Susan Lang to James A Allen 11/25/1873

Joyce

Major Ella Weston 1/1/1874 ✓

Nannie W Robert O Weston 10/3/1878

Orphan Book 1/1845 - 3/1849

January Term 1846

Estate of Henry Houston

Ann M Houston a minor child of Dr J Houston on 3/28/1879

Orphan BK 7 Sept term 1845 -

Eliza Houston wife of Henry Houston late

removed from care before settling her account

Josiah Not in book

Revised list of children - no Joseph  
one Josiah

First Birth Santa

✓ Lyon Francis S 10, 13, 47 48 117 237 312

✓ Lyon Major ↓

1/8/1835 - 56 68 W $\frac{1}{2}$  2 SE $\frac{1}{4}$

2 + 18N R 1E

Houston

Dallas Co al

Joseph Houston & Martha S Stubbs 11/25/1840

Samuel F & Margaret J Woods 9/13/1841

David P Roger & Clementine Houston 3/16/1841

Macon Co al

Betsy Houston & William Fortman 12/17/1841

Lancaster Co al

William G Houston died at age 56 in Oct 1850 born Va

born 1794. Could be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sam

Houston

Josiah and Eliza V Houston here in 1840  
Were seen. Eliza in Sumter Co in 1836

Samuel Houston in Sumter Co 1839 Wives & wife  
Ala Records

Paths to  
the Past



Established 1984

## Lauderdale County Department of Archives & History, Inc.

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Jim Dawson, Director

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Many hours have been spent by the undersigned trying to prove that Joseph Luther Houston of Lauderdale County, Mississippi was in fact the son of the Sam Houston and Diana Rogers. When those efforts failed, the undersigned spent more hours to bring forth the attached report which in his estimation proves that Joseph L. Houston was not the son of Sam and Diana Rogers Houston.

In the blending of legend and facts, the report indicates that Joseph Luther Houston did in fact come from Tennessee through Alabama into Lauderdale County, MS and that he, Joseph, may have been kin to the Sam Houston and that Sam Houston may have assisted in Joseph being brought to Lauderdale County, MS.

There are still some grey areas and more research is needed in Alabama and Tennessee.

Joseph L. Houston has been an interesting individual to follow. The writer could not prove Joseph was the son of Sam Houston, which is sincerely regretted, for it would have made one helluva story and movie.

Please let me have your comments on the attached when convenient.

In the meantime, I will give some thought to a historical fiction story on the "Hidden Son of Sam Houston."

A Hamrick family history is on file in LCDA & H for public use plus related families by Jeanne Hand Henry, C.G. of New Market, Alabama as well as a Hamrick family history by Mrs. Rosalyn McPhail (deceased) who lived at Collinsville.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Dawson

November 4, 1991

## SAM HOUSTON AND DIANA ROGERS

On April 25, 1829, Sam Houston boarded the steamer Red River at Nashville to return to the land of the Cherokees. This is when Sam and Eliza were apart. Eliza had left Sam shortly before but he remained in the area a few days before departing to join the Cherokees on the Arkansas River - Indian Territory.

Sam and Tiana moved from his foster father's home lodge in the summer of 1830. (Raven) Joseph Houston was born in August of 1830 in Tennessee.

Sam Wigwam Neosho was near the Neosho River a little above Cantonment Gibson and 30 miles from the lodge of his foster father's lodge Ooloo-te-ka.

This wigwam was located in the area of present Fort Gibson in the present state of Oklahoma and east of present Fort Smith, Arkansas.

July 22, 1830, the commandant received a letter from Sam Houston noting Sam Houston's arrival by boat from Nashville with goods for sale. Sam declared himself a citizen of the Cherokee Nations. This would be returning from a trip for goods for sale, after his marriage to Diana (Source - The Raven).

In August of 1831 Sam received notice of his mother's pending death. He went to her and in October he was back at the Wigwam. In November he sat with the National Council of Cherokees, then went east to Washington (Raven).

Reference: "Sam Houston: A Man Too Big for Texas" by \_\_\_\_\_?

When Sam got to Oklahoma in 1829 he was warmly welcomed by his adoptive and foster father Oo-Loo-Te-Ka.

Sam Houston With the Indians

In 1830 at the home of Captain John Rogers, half brother to Diana, on Spavinaw Creek (now Mayes County, Oklahoma) Sam and Tiana Rogers were married.

It was in 1829 that Sam again met Diana Rogers, widow of David Gentry in the Cherokee Nation West. He had known her during his stay with the Indians during his youth.

According to legend and information from a Hamrick descendant, Joseph Houston was born in March 1830. If this is correct, then he was conceived in June of 1829, a year before Sam and Diana married.

Sam Houston with the Cherokees, page 45.

During the time that Houston and his wife lived near Fort Gibson, professional horse racing and betting were actively pursued with seven gamblers licensed in the area from 1829-1830.

On October 10, 1852, Sam had already decided to leave for Texas. After his departure, Diana later married Samuel D. McGrady about April 1, 1856. At this time, Joseph would have been about 6 years old. If Joseph is the son of Diana, he, Joseph, would most certainly have been with his mother in the Cherokee Nation West. Diana died in 1858 after being married to McGrady for 2 years.

Diana married David Gentry, her first husband, before removal from Tennessee. Gentry removed with the Cherokees in 1817 to the community around Dardanelle, Arkansas. In 1828, the Cherokees removed from Arkansas to Oklahoma. This was a year before Joseph Luther Houston was conceived.

The Cherokees lived around in a 40 to 50 mile radius of Fort Smith, Arkansas, some in Arkansas, some in Oklahoma, the Cherokee Indian Nation West.

Note: If in fact it is true that Joseph Houston was born in Tennessee then Diana is not his mother. As previously stated, the Cherokee Indians had removed from Tennessee to Arkansas in 1817.

Sam Houston attended the Green Corn Dance in July 1829 in Oklahoma. This apparently would be the first time Sam saw her since his stay with the Cherokees from about 15 years of age to the age of 19 years.

Sam in Oklahoma in 1829, probably late 1829, married Diana in the summer of 1830. Joseph born 1831 according to 1870 Census of Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Later census records reflect he was born in August 1830.

Joseph could not have been born in Tennessee, that is, if he were in fact the child of Tiana and Sam. He would have been born within the boundaries of the Cherokee National West.

12/2/1832 - Sam Houston crossed the Red River into Texas from what is now known as the State of Oklahoma (Raven)

5/9/1840 - Sam married Margaret Lea (Joseph 9 or 10 years old) at Marion, Perry County, Alabama

Oklahoma Records: Vol. X, page 497. Thomas L. Rogers, son of Capt. John Rogers, Sr. and a brother of Diana the grandam wife of Sam Houston located on Spavinaw Creek near Grand River in 1836 to raise stock.

This does not say that Diana was with Thomas and she most likely was in the area.

G. Foreman, "Some New Light", pages 149 - 151, note especially "Power of Attorney" Diana Gentry to Samuel Houston, June 27, 1833

Diana Gentry was not using a married name of Houston on June 27, 1833 so perhaps she did not consider herself married to Sam Houston or that she and Sam had split the blanket and she had resumed her name of Gentry. She, reportedly had two children by David Gentry.

Point, if she had had a child by Sam Houston she more than likely would have used the name Houston - thus this is another indication that she did not give birth to a child by Sam Houston.

Sam is supposed to have left Diana for Texas in 1832. The above may indicate that he was with or near Diana in June 1833.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1840 Census Lauderdale County, MS page 52

John Hamrick at dwelling number 401

James Hamrick at dwelling number 402

Hays Rogers at dwelling number 410

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
3 - under 5, born 1835-40	1 - under 5
1 - 5 plus, born 1830-35	1 - 10 plus
3 - 20 plus, born 1810 - 20	1 - 15 plus
1 - 40 plus, born 1790-1800	1 - 30 plus

Hays Rogers was in the War of 1812 with John C. Hamrick.

Hays Rogers and John C. Hamrick both received land in Lauderdale County for their military service.

1850 Census

# 310 Burwell Hamrick, 27 born Alabama 1825 and family

# 321 (can't read - may be John)

# 322 Thomas Hamrick 32, born Mississippi

# 745 (area of Rogers)

John Hamrick 63, farmer, \$2,000, born Georgia 1787

Catherine 56, born South Carolina

Burwell 16, born Alabama 1834

Dennis Welch 22, laborer, born Mississippi

Amanda Hamrick 5,

On the 1850 Agricultural schedule John Hamrick was located close to his son, Thomas, insofar as land farmed, but according to the regular 1850 census they were not close neighbors. Apparently Thomas owned land near his father but lived near his brother Burwell.

Hays Rogers received 59.55 acres under military war grant #28825 in Section 2, Township 7, Range 15E on 1/7/1856 which he located himself. He purchased on the same day SE NW and E SW in same section, 118.66 acres, at \$1.00 per acre, certificate #93021.

On 9/26/1856 Hays Rogers purchased the E NE Section 10, Township 7, Range 15E, 79.85 acres for \$99.81 under certificate 5086. This land patented at Augusta land office on 1/5/1841, Vol. 10, page 379. This was Hays Rogers first land so he probably arrived in the county in 1856.

Section 12, Township 7, Range 15, some of the land purchased by Lovelace Mott, Richard Womack, Lewis Crane, Martin Crane, William Brown, James Castles in 1835-36.

Thomas Hamrick bought E SW 80.09 acres in Section 14, Township 7, Range 15E, on 1/27/1836. Certificate 34.40 from Augusta land office, patented 1/5/1841.

James Hamrick on 11/16/1836 bought SE SW 40 acres certificate #5480, not patented. He also at this time had land in Section 27, Township 7, Range 15E and 40 acres in Section 34, Township 7, Range 15. On 12/7/1836 John C. Hamrick purchased the following land from William Brown:

NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , 40.91 acres in Section 24, Township 7, Range 15E  
NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  80.51 acres Section 23, Township 7, Range 15E  
NW of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , 40.90 acres Section 24, Township 7, Range 15E

This was a total of 160 acres. Section 23 and 24 is located due south of present day Bailey and just outside of the present Meridian city limits. This would be SE of Pine Springs and west of Hookston.

This was John C. Hamrick's first land. Section 13 and 14 of Township 7, Range 15E separates Section 23 and 24 from Section 11 and 12. It was in Section 12 that Joseph Houston purchased land in 1858. Section 11 and 12 are just below (adjoin) Sections 1 and 2. It was in Section 1 where Joseph Houston paid land taxes in 1858.

Hays Rodgers first land was in Section 10 which he purchased on 9/26/1836.

Joseph L. Houston being in either Section 1 or Section 12 of Township 7, Range 15E would have been in close proximity to both John C. Hamrick and Hays Rodgers.

Thomas, son of John C. Hamrick was located in Section 14, Township 7, Range 15E in 1836.

By 1858 Joseph Houston still in either Section 1 or 12 of Township 7, Range 15E. John C. Hamrick was deceased. Hays Rodgers, Sr. owned land in Section 2, 3, and 10. He most likely lived in Section 10. Hays Rodgers, Jr. was near his father.

After the death of John C. Hamrick on 9/1/1856, his son Thomas removed to the present day Collinsville area.

It was in November of 1863 that Joseph L. Houston purchased land in the Collinsville area, that was near his father in law, Thomas Hamrick.

JOSEPH LUTHER HOUSTON

1850 Agricultural Schedule for Lauderdale County

Joseph Hustin (Houston) was not listed in the regular 1850 Census of Lauderdale County enumerated in June, 1850, but he was listed on the 1850 ag. schedule which was enumerated on November 12, 1850.

Joseph has 12 acres of improved land (farm land) and there was no figure for unimproved land. The value of the farm was \$100.00 and the value of his farm equipment was \$10.00. He owned one (1) horse, 3 milk cows and 11 swine. The value of his livestock (the horse) was \$91.00. He had on hand 75 bushels of Indian corn.

Two neighbors listed adjacent to him on this ag schedule were Sarah Wells and John Barrett. He was not listed or near any of the Hamricks nor was he near any Rogers in 1850 according to the 1850 ag. schedule but was recorded as near Rogers in 1858.\*

Timothy Rodgers (Rogers) was 20 years old in 1850, about the same age as Joseph. Timothy, Hays, Jr., Wilson, John, Elizabeth and Martha were children of Hays Rogers, Sr., and none were married in 1850. Timothy Rogers was next door to Joseph Houston in 1858.

The land that Joseph was farming in 1850 could have been in Section 1, Township 7, Range 15 that he purchased from the Augusta Land Office on 11/24/1858. In Section 1, Township 7, Range 15 in 1858, Thomas Blanks and John Daniels paid taxes on 40 and 80 acres respectively. The remainder of the section apparently was unoccupied or

\* It would have been nice if Joseph L Houston had been listed on the regular 1850 Lauderdale Co Census.

individuals or other land in this section did not pay any land taxes.

\* Hays Rogers owned 320 acres, the entire West  $\frac{1}{2}$  of West  $\frac{1}{2}$  part of Section 1, Township 7, Range 15 East in 1858, so if Joseph Houston was in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  in Section 1, Township 7, Range 15E, Joseph Houston would have been living only a short distance from Hays Rogers. We do not know just where Hays Rogers lived on his 320 acres or if he did in fact live on this 320 acres. He also owned in 1858, 280 acres in Section 3, Township 7, Range 15; also 90 acres in Section 10, Township 7, Range 15E.

When Joseph Houston was in Section 1, Township 7, Range 15E and later in Section 12, Township 7, Range 15E in 1858 he was recorded as near Hays Rogers, and his son Timothy Rogers and Hays, Jr.

*- he may have  
been close  
to Hays  
Rogers*

If Joseph had 75 bushels of corn in 11/1850, then he was planting corn in the Spring of 1850 and was farming during the summer. He had a horse, probably the horse that is covered in the family legend. And by his being in Lauderdale County in the early part of 1850, means (if legend is true) he arrived in the area around the first of the year 1850 or the latter part of 1849. QUESTION: Could Joseph have returned in 1850 to the people he knew about from his first stay in the county and then went looking for descendants of John Hamrick? Could he have returned to the exact location of where the family lived to whom he had been "farmed out"?

In 1858 Joseph Houston paid taxes on the NW of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  in Section 12, Township 7, Range 15E, 40 acres. This is below present day Bailey, Mississippi. In this same year Joseph Houston, as

*\* Hays Rogers (Rogers) and his family from Tennessee, one Hays Rogers married Mary Scott in Clarke Co AL on 12/11/1816*

stated above, purchased on 11/24/1858 from the Augusta Federal Land office the SSW of Section 1, Township 7, Range 15E for \$99.85 under certificate number 14016 which was never patented.

In summary, it would appear that Joseph may have lived on <sup>LAND</sup> the land in Section 1 where he paid taxes. ~~on same~~ There is no record of his selling of either of these tracts of land.

Some of the other persons who paid taxes on nearby land in 1858 were James Brown, John Daniels, Timothy Rodgers (Rogers) and Hays Rodgers, Jr.

On 11/28/1863 Joseph Houston purchased the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 23, Township 8, Range 14E, 160 acres of land east of Collinsville, MS. In 1858, a James New and Isaac White paid land taxes in this Section 23, with 520 acres not being reported.

The records reflect that Joseph Houston did not receive any land that was owned by the railroad. It is known that the Charles E. Rushing from whom Joseph purchased the 160 acres in 1863, was an agent for the railroad. Charles E. Rushing was a merchant and owned many acres of land across the county.

Joseph Houston married Almira Hamrick, daughter of Thomas Hamrick who was the son of John C. Hamrick.

Almira born January 1835. She is supposed to have married when 15 years of age. This would be 1850. But on the 1900 census it reflects that Joseph and Almira had been married for 48 years. This would reflect a marriage year of 1852.

Joseph Houston is on the 1853 State Census for Lauderdale with 1 male and 2 females in the household. This is proof that the first child was a female. Of course, no age is given for the

female child. Then the second child Columbus born in 1853. There is not a date when the census was taken. The female child probably born in 1852 and conceived in 1851. This would put the marriage of Joseph and Almira in 1851.

The recording of marriages in Lauderdale County for 1851 commence on 11/14/1851. Other records for that year are missing. Marriage records for Lauderdale County for the period of 6/12/1845 to November 14, 1851 are missing, thus if they did marry in Lauderdale County there is no record of the marriage. They may have married in Kemper County but those records were destroyed when the courthouse burned. They most likely married sometime in 1851 prior to November 14 in Lauderdale County, MS.

Joseph Houston and his family not listed on the 1860 census for Lauderdale County, MS.

#### 1870 Census for Lauderdale County

Family #132 Houston, Joseph	39, born Tennessee
Almira	33, born Mississippi
Columbus	17, born Mississippi
Margaret F.	14, born Mississippi
John O.	13, "
Sina	12, "
Sabina	12, "
Willie	9, F (?) This has to be William
Thomas	5, "
Mary D.	2,
Joseph	6/12

On the same census records:

Family #75 Houston, Robert F.	67, born Tenn. 1803
Ann	67, "
Robert	22, born Alabama 1848

Family #76 Houston, John C.	39, born Alabama 1831
Virginia	39, "
Mary	13, "
Santer	8, male "
Joseph C.	6, " 1858

Note: See Alabama information for more on Robert Finley Houston.

Joseph Houston is not listed on the 1880 Lauderdale County Census.

1900 Lauderdale County, MS Census enumerated 24 June 1900

Page 208 - A, Dwelling # 273, Family # 273

Houston, Joseph	born August 1830, 69 years, married 48 years born Tenn., <u>father born Tenn.</u> , <u>mother born Tenn.</u>
Almira	born January 1835, 65 years, married 48 years mother of 17 with 13 children living born Ga. father born Ga., mother born Ga.
Pane	son, born July 1877, 22, single, born MS father born Tenn., Mother born Ga.
Claud	son, born July 1877, same info as above on Pane, twins
Burrell, William	boarder, born July 1885, 14, born MS

Joseph is registered on the 1870 Lauderdale County census as being at age 39 born Tenn. The above 1900 census reflects him at 69 years. The census was taken in June 1900. He would have been 70 in the following August. Thus our best bet is that Joseph was born in August of 1830. If so he would have been conceived in November of 1829. On 4/23/1829 Sam Houston left Nashville to return to his Cherokee friends who had removed to an area on the Arkansas River. This could have been in Arkansas or Oklahoma. Most likely in Arkansas. The Cherokee Indians had removed from Tennessee by 1817. It may be true that Diana Rogers wife of Sam Houston was born in what is now Tennessee but Sam Houston was born near Lexington, Virginia on March 2, 1793. After the death of his father Major Samuel Houston, the family moved to Blount, Tennessee to land Samuel Houston had previously purchased. At age 15, (1808), Sam Houston, apparently named after his father (he was the 5th child) ran away to live with the Cherokee Indians. At age 19 (1812) he returned to his home in Maryville, Tennessee.

It is true that Joseph Houston may have not known where he was born but taking into consideration the census records as well as legend, Tennessee most likely was his birth state. Thus he was most likely not a son of the Sam Houston and Diana Rogers Gentry Houston.

Living next door to Joseph in 1900 were two of his sons William born March 1860 and Joseph born 9/1869, both reflect their father as being born in Tennessee.

Joseph and Almira attended the Shiloh Methodist Church at Collinsville after Joseph bought the 160 acres there in November of 1865.

There is the story Joseph would send his wife and family to church in the buggy, then he would arrive a bit later on his horse in a gallop and make a grand entrance, a bit of a show off, a trait of Sam Houston.

HOUSTON INFORMATION - ALABAMA

Dallas County, Alabama

Joseph Houston to Martha S. Stubbs, 11/25/1840, Book 1, page 178.

Samuel F. Houston to Margarett I. Woods, 9/13/1841, page 202

Reuben J. Rogers to Elizabeth Waters, 10/13/1819, page 15

W. David Rogers to Jane Emberson, 2/11/1841, page 188

David P. Rogers to Clementine Hewston (Houston, Huston?) in 1841, page 189

Isaac M. Rogers to Edith Coleman 11/6/1842, page 239

William B. Rogers to Martha Emerson, 12/21/1843, page 266

Sam Rogers to Minerva C. Roller, 1/23/1845, page 298

James Webb to Sarah Houston, 5/28/1824, page 51

Sumter County 1836 newspaper, Voice of Sumter

A jack found at the farm of Eleazer Houston - no date

6/4/1836 Robert Houston, James Savage and Thomas Cusack sold land in Sumter County.

Indian War - Florida - 1836

William Rodgers an ensign in Millers Company, Arrington Batt.

(Alabama)

James Houston, private.

→ John Houston in Snodgrass, N. Alabama Mounted Volunteers with Joseph Hamrick. John Rodgers, Robert Rodgers, William Rodgers and James Suiter were in Company I (Alabama).

Waters Co., Chisolm's Alabama Mil. Vol.

Charles H. Houston, private

Please note above that a John Houston served with a Joseph Hamrick in the North Alabama Mounted Volunteers. This Joseph Hamrick believed to have been a brother to John C. Hamrick. Joseph L. Houston named a son John. *There is need to look further at the above John Houston*

Sumter County, Alabama - Dollie A. Houston married William M. Stone, December 1853, daughter of Robert Finley Houston.

Jefferson County, Tennessee: 4/24/1815 Isaac Rodgers to Sally Rodgers.

Sumter County, Alabama - Sallie Houston, daughter of M. C. Houston married Thomas H. Lake on 3/29/1854. (Sumter County Democrat). Robert G. Houston in Sumter County on 6/28/1848. Bondsman for the marriage of Socrates Parker and Elizabeth P. Lake.

9/10/1827 - one Samuel Houston of Dallas County, Alabama was deceased - wife Sarah. - ~~This~~ Not parents of Joseph L. Houston since he was born in August 1830, but could be his grandparents. There was a reference to a Joseph in Dallas County, Alabama plus other Houstons.

1850 Census, Marengo County, Alabama

Luther G. Houston born Tennessee 1818. He would have been 12 years old when Joseph Luther Houston was born in August of 1830 in Tennessee. Joseph Houston's middle name was Luther.

1850 Census, Marengo County, Alabama Family #872

Houston, L. G. 32, Tenn., merchant, \$ 1,000

Maria H. 4, Ala., 1846

Luther F. 1, Ala., 1849

Strode, Harriet S. 58, Va., mother in law to L. G. Houston Alabama Records Vol. 58, page 20, Luther G. Houston married Jane F. D. Strode in Sumter County, Alabama on August 21, 1845. At this point in time Joseph Luther Houston would have been 15 years old. Joseph Houston allegedly was farmed out to a family near John C. Hamrick in 1843.

*There u a Luther  
Houston back there  
somewhere.*

Harriet S. Strode died in Marengo County, Alabama on 9/30/1853 at the home of her son in law, (Sumter County Democrat 10/8/1853).

A Math C. Houston in Sumter County, Alabama on 2/12/1853, administrator of the estate of Sarah Terrill. This M. C. Houston sold his interest in land in Township 6, Range 16E in Lauderdale County in 1854.

Robert Finley Houston in Sumter County, Alabama on 10/22/1836 ~~as~~ Sec. for marriage. Later in Lauderdale County, MS (1870 Census) As stated above Robert Finley Houston was born in Tenn. in 1803. Sumter County, Alabama Lorrin Houston married Benjamin L. Hitt on 1/15/1858. In 1838 Joseph Luther Houston was 8 years old.

L. G. Houston, security for a marriage in Sumter County, Alabama on 5/7/1838. If this is the same L. G. who was 32 years of age in 1850 then he (L. G.) would have been 20 years old in 1838. Usually he would have had to be 21 years of age to sign any legal document.

One Samuel Houston in Clarke County, Alabama Township 11, Range 1, on 1/27/1821. This may have been the Samuel Houston who was deceased in Dallas County, Alabama in 1827.

One David C. Houston in Clarke County, Alabama, Township 11, Range 4, on 7/3/1838.

Both a James and a Samuel Houston early in Dallas County, Alabama.

1840 Alabama Census Index, page 267

Samuel Houston in Talladega County, Alabama

Joseph Luther Houston in 1840 was 10 years old. This Samuel needs to be researched as it was in 1842 when Joseph as a lad of 12 years was brought to Lauderdale County MS and farmed out.

Alabama Records Vol. 230, Lauderdale County, Alabama

David Houston married Nancy Bromly on 1/31/1843

More research needed in Dallas County, Alabama to ascertain if Joseph Luther Houston was connected to the Luther G. Houston.

There is also a need to trace Sam Houston's brothers to see if Joseph L. Houston descended from any of the brothers of the Sam Houston.

## SUMMARY

It is strange that there is no legend regarding the family to whom Joseph Houston was allegedly "farmed out" when he was 12 years old in 1842. Joseph himself would have known the family.

There is no evidence that the writer can find to indicate that the children of Joseph and Almira Hamrick Houston had Indian features. There is evidence that some descendants resembled Indians possibly through another line (through marriage of their children).

No proof can be found that Joseph Houston's alleged father Sam Houston secured a large tract of land from the railroad for him.

Joseph Houston could have been the son of another Samuel Houston - there were several Samuels'.

Perhaps one of Hays Rogers sisters married a Houston and both parents died thus Joseph Luther Houston became an orphan. True, he may have gone to Texas with one of these Rogers or another family from Lauderdale County MS, to return in late 1849 or early 1850. He could have known of John C. Hamrick through Hays Rogers and not through Sam Houston.

Of course, there are a few bits of legend that fit but nothing fits for Diana Rogers being the mother of Joseph.

I have received parts of books written on Sam and Diana. I found some information by authors that didn't jive with information from other authors. It is regretted that the writer did not have the opportunity to read and review entire books.

True, Joseph may have been an orphan or he just may have been illegitimate -- a descendant of Joseph, now deceased, stated that the family never talked about the past fearing Joseph was illegitimate. If this is true then that could be a reason of no legend regarding his family.

The writer has been unable to ascertain whether or not any Houston relatives visited Joseph Houston. Legend has it there were no visits. Joseph L. Houston was alone -- by himself with no family except his own family. The best possible solution to this matter may lie partly with legend and partly with facts.

For example, it could be reasoned that Joseph L. Houston was brought to the area of John C. Hamrick in about 1842 where he Joseph was "farmed out", at age 12. He could have been brought to the area from somewhere in Alabama, maybe Dallas County, Alabama. He was left with a family maybe one of the Rodgers (Rogers) families or another family. This family may have gone to Texas and Joseph went with them.

The overriding point is that Joseph seemed to have been out on his own at an early age and that he was not recovered after the alleged stay of one (1) year with the unknown family. After a stay in Texas, he could have returned to the Lauderdale County area.

Some of the Rogers who were here in Lauderdale County early went to Texas and Joseph could have easily gone with them and remained with them until he returned to Lauderdale County in late 1849 or early 1850 to the same area where he was farmed out. He apparently was 20 years old in 1850 and made his first crop on some land that someone let him farm.

It was from this location that he went looking for heirs of John C. Hamrick in late 1850 or early 1851. (He, Joseph, knew of John C. Hamrick and would later abide by instructions from John C. Hamrick (see later). Possibly, he rode up to the Thomas Hamrick's home first on his return from Texas and then went on to make a crop during 1850. Almira was 15 years old in 1850. She was nearing her

16th birthday when the marriage took place, possibly in the summer of 1851. The first child, a daughter was born probably in 1852 and the second child Columbus was born in 1853. This indicates that Joseph L. Houston was in the area for awhile before his marriage.

It appears that the legend that Joseph rode up to Thomas Hamrick's home all the way from Texas could be true. He either did this or he later rode up from where he farmed north of Bailey after being in the area for awhile.

If Joseph L. Houston was the son of Sam Houston and Diana Rogers then he was conceived before their official marriage which occurred in the summer of 1830. Joseph was born in August 1830.

Diana refused to go with Sam to Texas. She would be a stranger in the white man's land. Diana could have accompanied Sam on some of his trips prior to his departure to Texas.

The point here is that Diana did not desire the white man's world. Although she no doubt loved Sam Houston she did not feel comfortable in the white world. Sam Houston felt comfortable in both worlds and he did well in both worlds.

If Joseph was the son of Diana then he would have been with her in Oklahoma as an 8 year old boy when she died in 1838. Joseph could possibly have lived with Rogers relatives in the area until 1843 when he was 12 years old.

But the legend is that Joseph Houston rode from Texas. The only two states mentioned in the legend is Tennessee and Texas.

In all legend, the writer feels there is some truth. The problem is to identify that part which is true.

John C. Hamrick was familiar with the farming out of boys since he was farmed out himself. The legend that Joseph was farmed out is more than likely true and the person to whom he was farmed out had to be in the area of John C. Hamrick and Hays Rodgers. But this writer feels that Joseph was not brought from Texas but from Alabama or Tennessee to John C. Hamrick who farmed him out to one of his neighbors.

The legend that he rode back to the area from Texas is perhaps correct. He could have gone to Texas with the family he was living with and later returned to the area looking for descendants of John C. Hamrick and happened to ride up to John C. Hamrick's son Thomas' home looking for descendants of John C. Houston. Joseph's short memory about the area could have been due to the fact he did not stay in the area long -- that he went to Texas with his more or less adopted family shortly after his arrival in Lauderdale County where he grew to manhood.

On his return, as stated he rode up to Thomas Hamrick's home. It was there he found that John C. Hamrick was still living. He went on to make a crop in 1850 probably through assistance from John C. Hamrick. He courted Almira, daughter of Thomas Hamrick and they were married in 1851 after he, Joseph, had been in the area for approximately two years. He and his family lived in the area of Section 1 or 12, Township 7, Range 15 E until he purchased the 160 acres of land near Collinsville. It is not known how Joseph came by the \$2,000 to purchase the 160 acres in 1863. It is known that in his life he raised horses and apparently he was an excellent farmer. He had to be to feed his brood of children. It is also known that Thomas Hamrick did not care for his son in law

Joseph Houston. Joseph and Almira eloped against her father's wishes.

There is no record of Joseph Houston serving in the Civil War. He is not listed as being called for induction. If he was in the horse breeding business during this period, he may have sold horses to the Confederate Army. No one knows if he used U. S. money or Confederate money to purchase the land in 1863. Thomas Hamrick, father of Almira, lost two sons in the Civil War.

Sometime before John C. Hamrick's death in 1856 he caused Joseph Houston to release a mule that Joseph was holding due to a debt by the owner of the mule to Joseph. The details of this are in the Circuit Court vertical files (unable to locate the exact reference as these files are presently being abstracted). Joseph released the mule. This reflects that Joseph respected John C. Hamrick and would not go against the wishes of John C. Hamrick.

As stated, more research is needed in regards to determining the real parents of Joseph L. Houston. It appears to the writer that Joseph was an orphan and that his father's name may have been *or John* Samuel. There were as previously stated a number of Samuel Houston's in Alabama and elsewhere.

The orphan possibility would reflect that Joseph L. Houston came to Lauderdale County where he had no relatives. Why was it that he did not seek out his own people when he returned from Texas? Had he been rejected by them? Was he bitter? Family legend has it that he liked to keep something "up in the air" and that he liked to "show off". Sometimes this may come about due to lack of attention.

Writer thinks that overall Joseph L. Houston's life was sad and hopes that further research will uncover his parents and people.

#### CONTINUED SUMMARY

It just may be true that Joseph was hidden for awhile and that in someway he was connected to Sam Houston.

Speculation: If in fact Joseph Luther Houston did come from Dallas County, Alabama, then there is some reason to believe that he perhaps knew, or knew of Sam Houston.

Dallas County joins Perry County. Marion is the county seat of Perry County. Marion is where Sam married Margaret Lea in 1840. There were a number of Houstons in the above area in 1840. Sam Houston could have been kin to at least some of these Houstons. The alleged connection of Joseph to Sam Houston could have come from this area originally and Sam Houston may have played a role in the farming out of Joseph. It could have been that Joseph's parents were deceased and Sam Houston helped -- not because Joseph was his son but because he, Sam Houston, was helping out a relative.

Sam Houston, as the legend goes could have brought Joseph to John C. Hamrick in Lauderdale County, MS from Alabama, not Texas. This part of the legend may be true.

Sam Houston travelled from Texas to Alabama to purchase horses and to seek financial support and on one of these trips he could have brought Joseph Luther Houston from Alabama to John C. Hamrick while returning to Texas.

It is felt that the result of this research is as follows: Joseph Luther Houston was not a son of the Sam Houston, that Joseph came from Tennessee through Alabama to Lauderdale County, MS. Future research in Alabama and Tennessee could bring more light on the subject especially after research on the siblings of the Sam Houston.



## Lauderdale County Department of Archives & History, Inc.

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Jim Dawson, Director

Established 1984

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Many hours have been spent by the undersigned trying to prove that Joseph Luther Houston of Lauderdale County, Mississippi was in fact the son of the Sam Houston and Diana Rogers. When those efforts failed, the undersigned spent more hours to bring forth the attached report which in his estimation proves that Joseph L. Houston was not the son of Sam and Diana Rogers Houston.

In the blending of legend and facts, the report indicates that Joseph Luther Houston did in fact come from Tennessee through Alabama into Lauderdale County, MS and that he, Joseph, may have been kin to the Sam Houston and that Sam Houston may have assisted in Joseph being brought to Lauderdale County, MS.

There are still some grey areas and more research is needed in Alabama and Tennessee.

Joseph L. Houston has been an interesting individual to follow. The writer could not prove Joseph was the son of Sam Houston, which is sincerely regretted, for it would have made one helluva story and movie.

Please let me have your comments on the attached when convenient.

In the meantime, I will give some thought to a historical fiction story on the "Hidden Son of Sam Houston."

A Hamrick family history is on file in LCDA & H for public use plus related families by Jeanne Hand Henry, C.G. of New Market, Alabama as well as a Hamrick family history by Mrs. Rosalyn McPhail (deceased) who lived at Collinsville.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Dawson

November 4, 1991

## SAM HOUSTON AND DIANA ROGERS

On April 23, 1829, Sam Houston boarded the steamer Red River at Nashville to return to the land of the Cherokees. This is when Sam and Eliza were apart. Eliza had left Sam shortly before but he remained in the area a few days before departing to join the Cherokees on the Arkansas River - Indian Territory.

Sam and Tiana moved from his foster father's home lodge in the summer of 1830. (Raven) Joseph Houston was born in August of 1830 in Tennessee.

Sam Wigwam Neosho was near the Neosho River a little above Cantonment Gibson and 30 miles from the lodge of his foster father's lodge Ooloo-te-ka.

This wigwam was located in the area of present Fort Gibson in the present state of Oklahoma and east of present Fort Smith, Arkansas.

July 22, 1830, the commandant received a letter from Sam Houston noting Sam Houston's arrival by boat from Nashville with goods for sale. Sam declared himself a citizen of the Cherokee Nations. This would be returning from a trip for goods for sale, after his marriage to Diana (Source - The Raven).

In August of 1831 Sam received notice of his mother's pending death. He went to her and in October he was back at the Wigwam. In November he sat with the National Council of Cherokees, then went east to Washington (Raven).

Reference: "Sam Houston: A Man Too Big for Texas" by \_\_\_\_\_?

When Sam got to Oklahoma in 1829 he was warmly welcomed by his adoptive and foster father Oo-Loo-Te-Ka.

Sam Houston With the Indians

In 1830 at the home of Captain John Rogers, half brother to Diana, on Spavinaw Creek (now Mayes County, Oklahoma) Sam and Tiana Rogers were married.

It was in 1829 that Sam again met Diana Rogers, widow of David Gentry in the Cherokee Nation West. He had known her during his stay with the Indians during his youth.

According to legend and information from a Hamrick descendant, Joseph Houston was born in March 1830. If this is correct, then he was conceived in June of 1829, a year before Sam and Diana married.

Sam Houston with the Cherokees, page 45.

During the time that Houston and his wife lived near Fort Gibson, professional horse racing and betting were actively pursued with seven gamblers licensed in the area from 1829-1830.

On October 10, 1832, Sam had already decided to leave for Texas. After his departure, Diana later married Samuel D. McGrady about April 1, 1836. At this time, Joseph would have been about 6 years old. If Joseph is the son of Diana, he, Joseph, would most certainly have been with his mother in the Cherokee Nation West. Diana died in 1838 after being married to McGrady for 2 years.

Diana married David Gentry, her first husband, before removal from Tennessee. Gentry removed with the Cherokees in 1817 to the community around Dardanelle, Arkansas. In 1828, the Cherokees removed from Arkansas to Oklahoma. This was a year before Joseph Luther Houston was conceived.

The Cherokees lived around in a 40 to 50 mile radius of Fort Smith, Arkansas, some in Arkansas, some in Oklahoma, the Cherokee Indian Nation West.

Note: If in fact it is true that Joseph Houston was born in Tennessee then Diana is not his mother. As previously stated, the Cherokee Indians had removed from Tennessee to Arkansas in 1817.

Sam Houston attended the Green Corn Dance in July 1829 in Oklahoma. This apparently would be the first time Sam saw her since his stay with the Cherokees from about 15 years of age to the age of 19 years.

Sam in Oklahoma in 1829, probably late 1829, married Diana in the summer of 1830. Joseph born 1831 according to 1870 Census of Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Later census records reflect he was born in August 1830.

Joseph could not have been born in Tennessee, that is, if he were in fact the child of Tiana and Sam. He would have been born within the boundaries of the Cherokee National West.

12/2/1832 - Sam Houston crossed the Red River into Texas from what is now known as the State of Oklahoma (Raven)

5/9/1840 - Sam married Margaret Lea (Joseph 9 or 10 years old) at Marion, Perry County, Alabama

Oklahoma Records: Vol. X, page 497. Thomas L. Rogers, son of Capt. John Rogers, Sr. and a brother of Diana the grandam wife of Sam Houston located on Spavinaw Creek near Grand River in 1836 to raise stock.

This does not say that Diana was with Thomas and she most likely was in the area.

G. Foreman, "Some New Light", pages 149 - 151, note especially "Power of Attorney" Diana Gentry to Samuel Houston, June 27, 1833

Diana Gentry was not using a married name of Houston on June 27, 1833 so perhaps she did not consider herself married to Sam Houston or that she and Sam had split the blanket and she had resumed her name of Gentry. She, reportedly had two children by David Gentry.

Point, if she had had a child by Sam Houston she more than likely would have used the name Houston - thus this is another indication that she did not give birth to a child by Sam Houston.

Sam is supposed to have left Diana for Texas in 1832. The above may indicate that he was with or near Diana in June 1833.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1840 Census Lauderdale County, MS page 52

John Hamrick at dwelling number 401

James Hamrick at dwelling number 402

Hays Rogers at dwelling number 410

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
3 - under 5, born 1835-40	1 - under 5
1 - 5 plus, born 1830-35	1 - 10 plus
3 - 20 plus, born 1810 - 20	1 - 15 plus
1 - 40 plus, born 1790-1800	1 - 30 plus

Hays Rogers was in the War of 1812 with John C. Hamrick.

Hays Rogers and John C. Hamrick both received land in Lauderdale County for their military service.

1850 Census

# 310 Burwell Hamrick, 27 born Alabama 1823 and family

# 321 (can't read - may be John)

# 322 Thomas Hamrick 32, born Mississippi

# 745 (area of Rogers)

John Hamrick 63, farmer, \$2,000, born Georgia 1787

Catherine 56, born South Carolina

Burwell 16, born Alabama 1834

Dennis Welch 22, laborer, born Mississippi

Amanda Hamrick 5,

On the 1850 Agricultural schedule John Hamrick was located close to his son, Thomas, insofar as land farmed, but according to the regular 1850 census they were not close neighbors. Apparently Thomas owned land near his father but lived near his brother Burwell.

Hays Rogers received 39.55 acres under military war grant #28825 in Section 2, Township 7, Range 15E on 1/7/1856 which he located himself. He purchased on the same day SE NW and E SW in same section, 118.66 acres, at \$1.00 per acre, certificate #93021.

On 9/26/1836 Hays Rogers purchased the E NE Section 10, Township 7, Range 15E, 79.85 acres for \$99.81 under certificate 5086. This land patented at Augusta land office on 1/5/1841, Vol. 10, page 379. This was Hays Rogers first land so he probably arrived in the county in 1836.

Section 12, Township 7, Range 15, some of the land purchased by Lovelace Mott, Richard Womack, Lewis Crane, Martin Crane, William Brown, James Castles in 1835-36.

Thomas Hamrick bought E SW 80.09 acres in Section 14, Township 7, Range 15E, on 1/27/1836. Certificate 34.40 from Augusta land office, patented 1/5/1841.

James Hamrick on 11/16/1836 bought SE SW 40 acres certificate #5480, not patented. He also at this time had land in Section 27, Township 7, Range 15E and 40 acres in Section 34, Township 7, Range 15. On 12/7/1836 John C. Hamrick purchased the following land from William Brown:

NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , 40.91 acres in Section 24, Township 7, Range 15E  
NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  80.31 acres Section 23, Township 7, Range 15E  
NW of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , 40.90 acres Section 24, Township 7, Range 15E  
This was a total of 160 acres. Section 23 and 24 is located due south of present day Bailey and just outside of the present Meridian city limits. This would be SE of Pine Springs and west of Hookston.

This was John C. Hamrick's first land. Section 13 and 14 of Township 7, Range 15E separates Section 23 and 24 from Section 11 and 12. It was in Section 12 that Joseph Houston purchased land in 1858. Section 11 and 12 are just below (adjoin) Sections 1 and 2. It was in Section 1 where Joseph Houston paid land taxes in 1858.

Hays Rodgers first land was in Section 10 which he purchased on 9/26/1836.

Joseph L. Houston being in either Section 1 or Section 12 of Township 7, Range 15E would have been in close proximity to both John C. Hamrick and Hays Rodgers.

Thomas, son of John C. Hamrick was located in Section 14, Township 7, Range 15E in 1836.

By 1858 Joseph Houston still in either Section 1 or 12 of Township 7, Range 15E. John C. Hamrick was deceased. Hays Rodgers, Sr. owned land in Section 2, 3, and 10. He most likely lived in Section 10. Hays Rodgers, Jr. was near his father.

After the death of John C. Hamrick on 9/1/1856, his son Thomas removed to the present day Collinsville area.

It was in November of 1863 that Joseph L. Houston purchased land in the Collinsville area, that was near his father in law, Thomas Hamrick.

JOSEPH LUTHER HOUSTON

1850 Agricultural Schedule for Lauderdale County

Joseph Hustin (Houston) was not listed in the regular 1850 Census of Lauderdale County enumerated in June, 1850, but he was listed on the 1850 ag. schedule which was enumerated on November 12, 1850.

Joseph has 12 acres of improved land (farm land) and there was no figure for unimproved land. The value of the farm was \$100.00 and the value of his farm equipment was \$10.00. He owned one (1) horse, 3 milk cows and 11 swine. The value of his livestock (the horse) was \$91.00. He had on hand 75 bushels of Indian corn.

Two neighbors listed adjacent to him on this ag schedule were Sarah Wells and John Barrett. He was not listed or near any of the Hamricks nor was he near any Rogers in 1850 according to the 1850 ag. schedule but was recorded as near Rogers in 1858.\*

Timothy Rodgers (Rogers) was 20 years old in 1850, about the same age as Joseph. Timothy, Hays, Jr., Wilson, John, Elizabeth and Martha were children of Hays Rogers, Sr., and none were married in 1850. Timothy Rogers was next door to Joseph Houston in 1858.

The land that Joseph was farming in 1850 could have been in Section 1, Township 7, Range 15 that he purchased from the Augusta Land Office on 11/24/1858. In Section 1, Township 7, Range 15 in 1858, Thomas Blanks and John Daniels paid taxes on 40 and 80 acres respectively. The remainder of the section apparently was unoccupied or

\* It would have been nice if Joseph L Houston had been listed on the regular 1850 Lauderdale Co Census.

individuals or other land in this section did not pay any land taxes.

Hays Rogers owned 320 acres, the entire West  $\frac{1}{2}$  of West  $\frac{1}{2}$  part of Section 1, Township 7, Range 15 East in 1858, so if Joseph Houston was in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  in Section 1, Township 7, Range 15E, Joseph Houston would have been living only a short distance from Hays Rogers. We do not know just where Hays Rogers lived on his 320 acres or if he did in fact live on this 320 acres. He also owned in 1858, 280 acres in Section 3, Township 7, Range 15; also 90 acres in Section 10, Township 7, Range 15E.

When Joseph Houston was in Section 1, Township 7, Range 15E ~~and later~~ in Section 12, Township 7, Range 15E in 1858 he was recorded as near Hays Rogers, and his son Timothy Rogers and Hays, Jr.

*he may have  
been close  
to Hays  
Rogers*

If Joseph had 75 bushels of corn in 11/1850, then he was planting corn in the Spring of 1850 and was farming during the summer. He had a horse, probably the horse that is covered in the family legend. And by his being in Lauderdale County in the early part of 1850, means (if legend is true) he arrived in the area around the first of the year 1850 or the latter part of 1849. QUESTION: Could Joseph have returned in 1850 to the people he knew about from his first stay in the county and then went looking for descendants of John Hamrick? Could he have returned to the exact location of where the family lived to whom he had been "farmed out"?

In 1858 Joseph Houston paid taxes on the NW of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  in Section 12, Township 7, Range 15E, 40 acres. This is below present day Bailey, Mississippi. In this same year Joseph Houston, as

stated above, purchased on 11/24/1858 from the Augusta Federal Land office the SSW of Section 1, Township 7, Range 15E for \$99.85 under certificate number 14016 which was never patented.

In summary, it would appear that Joseph may have lived on the land in Section 1 where he paid taxes. <sup>LAND</sup> ~~on same~~ and there is no record of his selling of either of these tracts of land.

Some of the other persons who paid taxes on nearby land in 1858 were James Brown, John Daniels, Timothy Rodgers (Rogers) and Hays Rodgers, Jr.

On 11/28/1863 Joseph Houston purchased the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 23, Township 8, Range 14E, 160 acres of land east of Collinsville, MS. In 1858, a James New and Isaac White paid land taxes in this Section 23, with 520 acres not being reported.

The records reflect that Joseph Houston did not receive any land that was owned by the railroad. It is known that the Charles E. Rushing from whom Joseph purchased the 160 acres in 1863, was an agent for the railroad. Charles E. Rushing was a merchant and owned many acres of land across the county.

Joseph Houston married Almira Hamrick, daughter of Thomas Hamrick who was the son of John C. Hamrick.

Almira born January 1835. She is supposed to have married when 15 years of age. This would be 1850. But on the 1900 census it reflects that Joseph and Almira had been married for 48 years. This would reflect a marriage year of 1852.

Joseph Houston is on the 1853 State Census for Lauderdale with 1 male and 2 females in the household. This is proof that the first child was a female. Of course, no age is given for the

female child. Then the second child Columbus born in 1853. There is not a date when the census was taken. The female child probably born in 1852 and conceived in 1851. This would put the marriage of Joseph and Almira in 1851.

The recording of marriages in Lauderdale County for 1851 commence on 11/14/1851. Other records for that year are missing. Marriage records for Lauderdale County for the period of 6/12/1845 to November 14, 1851 are missing, thus if they did marry in Lauderdale County there is no record of the marriage. They may have married in ~~Kemper~~ County but those records were destroyed when the courthouse burned. They most likely married sometime in 1851 prior to November 14 in Lauderdale County, MS.

Joseph Houston and his family not listed on the 1860 census for Lauderdale County, MS.

#### 1870 Census for Lauderdale County

Family #132 Houston, Joseph	39,	born Tennessee
Almira	33,	born Mississippi
Columbus	17,	born Mississippi
Margaret F.	14,	born Mississippi
John O.	13,	"
Sina	12,	"
Sabina	12,	"
Willie	9,	F (?) This has to be William
Thomas	5,	"
Mary D.	2,	
Joseph	6/12	

On the same census records:

Family #75 Houston, Robert F.	67,	born Tenn. 1803
Ann	67,	"
Robert	22,	born Alabama 1848

Family #76 Houston, John C.	39,	born Alabama 1831
Virginia	39,	"
Mary	13,	"
Santer	8,	male "
Joseph C.	6,	" 1858

Note: See Alabama information for more on Robert Finley Houston.

Joseph Houston is not listed on the 1880 Lauderdale County Census.

1900 Lauderdale County, MS Census enumerated 24 June 1900

Page 208 - A, Dwelling # 273, Family # 273

Houston, Joseph	born August 1830, 69 years, married 48 years born Tenn., <u>father born Tenn.</u> , <u>mother born Tenn.</u>
Almira	born January 1835, 65 years, married 48 years mother of 17 with 13 children living born Ga. father born Ga., mother born Ga.
Pane	son, born July 1877, 22, single, born MS father born Tenn., Mother born Ga.
Claud	son, born July 1877, same info as above on Pane, twins
Burrell, William	boarder, born July 1885, 14, born MS

Joseph is registered on the 1870 Lauderdale County census as being at age 39 born Tenn. The above 1900 census reflects him at 69 years. The census was taken in June 1900. He would have been 70 in the following August. Thus our best bet is that Joseph was born in August of 1830. If so he would have been conceived in November of 1829. On 4/23/1829 Sam Houston left Nashville to return to his Cherokee friends who had removed to an area on the Arkansas River. This could have been in Arkansas or Oklahoma. Most likely in Arkansas. The Cherokee Indians had removed from Tennessee by 1817. It may be true that Diana Rogers wife of Sam Houston was born in what is now Tennessee but Sam Houston was born near Lexington, Virginia on March 2, 1793. After the death of his father Major Samuel Houston, the family moved to Blount, Tennessee to land Samuel Houston had previously purchased. At age 15, (1808), Sam Houston, apparently named after his father (he was the 5th child) ran away to live with the Cherokee Indians. At age 19 (1812) he returned to his home in Maryville, Tennessee.

It is true that Joseph Houston may have not known where he was born but taking into consideration the census records as well as legend, Tennessee most likely was his birth state. Thus he was most likely not a son of the Sam Houston and Diana Rogers Gentry Houston.

Living next door to Joseph in 1900 were two of his sons William born March 1860 and Joseph born 9/1869, both reflect their father as being born in Tennessee.

Joseph and Almira attended the Shiloh Methodist Church at Collinsville after Joseph bought the 160 acres there in November of 1863.

There is the story Joseph would send his wife and family to church in the buggy, then he would arrive a bit later on his horse in a gallop and make a grand entrance, a bit of a show off, a trait of Sam Houston.

HOUSTON INFORMATION - ALABAMA

Dallas County, Alabama

Joseph Houston to Martha S. Stubbs, 11/25/1840, Book 1, page 178.

Samuel F. Houston to Margarett I. Woods, 9/13/1841, page 202

Reuben J. Rogers to Elizabeth Waters, 10/13/1819, page 15

W. David Rogers to Jane Emberson, 2/11/1841, page 188

David P. Rogers to Clementine Hewston (Houston, Huston?) in  
1841, page 189

Isaac M. Rogers to Edith Coleman 11/6/1842, page 239

William B. Rogers to Martha Emerson, 12/21/1843, page 266

Sam Rogers to Minerva C. Roller, 1/23/1845, page 298

James Webb to Sarah Houston, 5/28/1824, page 51

Sumter County 1836 newspaper, Voice of Sumter

A jack found at the farm of Eleazer Houston - no date

6/4/1836 Robert Houston, James Savage and Thomas Cusack sold land  
in Sumter County.

Indian War - Florida - 1836

William Rodgers an ensign in Millers Company, Arrington Batt.

(Alabama)

James Houston, private.

→ John Houston in Snodgrass, N. Alabama Mounted Volunteers with  
Joseph Hamrick. John Rodgers, Robert Rodgers, William Rodgers and  
James Suiter were in Company I (Alabama).

Waters Co., Chisolm's Alabama Mil. Vol.

Charles H. Houston, private

Please note above that a John Houston served with a Joseph Hamrick  
in the North Alabama Mounted Volunteers. This Joseph Hamrick believed  
to have been a brother to John C. Hamrick. Joseph L. Houston named  
a son John. *There is need to look further at the above John Houston*

Sumter County, Alabama - Dollie A. Houston married William M. Stone, December 1853, daughter of Robert Finley Houston.

Jefferson County, Tennessee: 4/24/1815 Isaac Rodgers to Sally Rodgers.

Sumter County, Alabama - Sallie Houston, daughter of M. C. Houston married Thomas H. Lake on 3/29/1854. (Sumter County Democrat).

Robert G. Houston in Sumter County on 6/28/1848. Bondsman for the marriage of Socrates Parker and Elizabeth P. Lake.

9/10/1827 - one Samuel Houston of Dallas County, Alabama was deceased - wife Sarah. - ~~This~~ Not parents of Joseph L. Houston since he was born in August 1830, but could be his grandparents. There was a reference to a Joseph in Dallas County, Alabama plus other Houstons.

1850 Census, Marengo County, Alabama

Luther G. Houston born Tennessee 1818. He would have been 12 years old when Joseph Luther Houston was born in August of 1830 in Tennessee. Joseph Houston's middle name was Luther.

1850 Census, Marengo County, Alabama Family #872

Houston, L. G. 32, Tenn., merchant, \$ 1,000

Maria H. 4, Ala., 1846

Luther F. 1, Ala., 1849

Strode, Harriet S. 58, Va., mother in law to L. G. Houston  
Alabama Records Vol. 58, page 20, Luther G. Houston married Jane F. D. Strode in Sumter County, Alabama on August 21, 1845. At this point in time Joseph Luther Houston would have been 15 years old. Joseph Houston allegedly was farmed out to a family near John C. Hamrick in 1843.

*There is a Luther Houston back there somewhere.*

Harriet S. Strode died in Marengo County, Alabama on 9/30/1853 at the home of her son in law, (Sumter County Democrat 10/8/1853).

A Math C. Houston in Sumter County, Alabama on 2/12/1853, administrator of the estate of Sarah Terrill. This M. C. Houston sold his interest in land in Township 6, Range 16E in Lauderdale County in 1854.

Robert Finley Houston in Sumter County, Alabama on 10/22/1836 ~~as~~ Sec. for marriage. Later in Lauderdale County, MS (1870 Census) As stated above Robert Finley Houston was born in Tenn. in 1803. Sumter County, Alabama Lorrin Houston married Benjamin L. Hitt on 1/15/1838. In 1838 Joseph Luther Houston was 8 years old.

L. G. Houston, security for a marriage in Sumter County, Alabama on 5/7/1838. If this is the same L. G. who was 32 years of age in 1850 then he (L. G.) would have been 20 years old in 1838. Usually he would have had to be 21 years of age to sign any legal document.

One Samuel Houston in Clarke County, Alabama Township 11, Range 1, on 1/27/1821. This may have been the Samuel Houston who was deceased in Dallas County, Alabama in 1827.

One David C. Houston in Clarke County, Alabama, Township 11, Range 4, on 7/3/1838.

Both a James and a Samuel Houston early in Dallas County, Alabama.

1840 Alabama Census Index, page 267

Samuel Houston in Talladega County, Alabama

Joseph Luther Houston in 1840 was 10 years old. This Samuel needs to be researched as it was in 1842 when Joseph as a lad of 12 years was brought to Lauderdale County MS and farmed out.

Alabama Records Vol. 230, Lauderdale County, Alabama

David Houston married Nancy Bromly on 1/31/1843

More research needed in Dallas County, Alabama to ascertain if Joseph Luther Houston was connected to the Luther G. Houston.

There is also a need to trace Sam Houston's brothers to see if Joseph L. Houston descended from any of the brothers of the Sam Houston.

## SUMMARY

It is strange that there is no legend regarding the family to whom Joseph Houston was allegedly "farmed out" when he was 12 years old in 1842. Joseph himself would have known the family.

There is no evidence that the writer can find to indicate that the children of Joseph and Almira Hamrick Houston had Indian features. There is evidence that some descendants resembled Indians possibly through another line (through marriage of their children).

No proof can be found that Joseph Houston's alleged father Sam Houston secured a large tract of land from the railroad for him.

Joseph Houston could have been the son of another Samuel Houston - there were several Samuels'.

Perhaps one of Hays Rogers sisters married a Houston and both parents died thus Joseph Luther Houston became an orphan. True, he may have gone to Texas with one of these Rogers or another family from Lauderdale County MS, to return in late 1849 or early 1850. He could have known of John C. Hamrick through Hays Rogers and not through Sam Houston.

Of course, there are a few bits of legend that fit but nothing fits for Diana Rogers being the mother of Joseph.

I have received parts of books written on Sam and Diana. I found some information by authors that didn't jive with information from other authors. It is regretted that the writer did not have the opportunity to read and review entire books.

True, Joseph may have been an orphan or he just may have been illegitimate -- a descendant of Joseph, now deceased, stated that the family never talked about the past fearing Joseph was illegitimate. If this is true then that could be a reason of no legend regarding his family.

The writer has been unable to ascertain whether or not any Houston relatives visited Joseph Houston. Legend has it there were no visits. Joseph L. Houston was alone -- by himself with no family except his own family. The best possible solution to this matter may lie partly with legend and partly with facts.

For example, it could be reasoned that Joseph L. Houston was brought to the area of John C. Hamrick in about 1842 where he Joseph was "farmed out", at age 12. He could have been brought to the area from somewhere in Alabama, maybe Dallas County, Alabama. He was left with a family maybe one of the Rodgers (Rogers) families or another family. This family may have gone to Texas and Joseph went with them.

The overriding point is that Joseph seemed to have been out on his own at an early age and that he was not recovered after the alleged stay of one (1) year with the unknown family. After a stay in Texas, he could have returned to the Lauderdale County area.

Some of the Rogers who were here in Lauderdale County early went to Texas and Joseph could have easily gone with them and remained with them until he returned to Lauderdale County in late 1849 or early 1850 to the same area where he was farmed out. He apparently was 20 years old in 1850 and made his first crop on some land that someone let him farm.

It was from this location that he went looking for heirs of John C. Hamrick in late 1850 or early 1851. (He, Joseph, knew of John C. Hamrick and would later abide by instructions from John C. Hamrick (see later). Possibly, he rode up to the Thomas Hamrick's home first on his return from Texas and then went on to make a crop during 1850. Almira was 15 years old in 1850. She was nearing her

16th birthday when the marriage took place, possibly in the summer of 1851. The first child, a daughter was born probably in 1852 and the second child Columbus was born in 1853. This indicates that Joseph L. Houston was in the area for awhile before his marriage.

It appears that the legend that Joseph rode up to Thomas Hamrick's home all the way from Texas could be true. He either did this or he later rode up from where he farmed north of Bailey after being in the area for awhile.

If Joseph L. Houston was the son of Sam Houston and Diana Rogers then he was conceived before their official marriage which occurred in the summer of 1830. Joseph was born in August 1830.

Diana refused to go with Sam to Texas. She would be a stranger in the white man's land. Diana could have accompanied Sam on some of his trips prior to his departure to Texas.

The point here is that Diana did not desire the white man's world. Although she no doubt loved Sam Houston she did not feel comfortable in the white world. Sam Houston felt comfortable in both worlds and he did well in both worlds.

If Joseph was the son of Diana then he would have been with her in Oklahoma as an 8 year old boy when she died in 1838. Joseph could possibly have lived with Rogers relatives in the area until 1843 when he was 12 years old.

But the legend is that Joseph Houston rode from Texas. The only two states mentioned in the legend is Tennessee and Texas.

In all legend, the writer feels there is some truth. The problem is to identify that part which is true.

John C. Hamrick was familiar with the farming out of boys since he was farmed out himself. The legend that Joseph was farmed out is more than likely true and the person to whom he was farmed out had to be in the area of John C. Hamrick and Hays Rodgers. But this writer feels that Joseph was not brought from Texas but from Alabama or Tennessee to John C. Hamrick who farmed him out to one of his neighbors.

The legend that he rode back to the area from Texas is perhaps correct. He could have gone to Texas with the family he was living with and later returned to the area looking for descendants of John C. Hamrick and happened to ride up to John C. Hamrick's son Thomas' home looking for descendants of John C. Houston. Joseph's short memory about the area could have been due to the fact he did not stay in the area long -- that he went to Texas with his more or less adopted family shortly after his arrival in Lauderdale County where he grew to manhood.

On his return, as stated he rode up to Thomas Hamrick's home. It was there he found that John C. Hamrick was still living. He went on to make a crop in 1850 probably through assistance from John C. Hamrick. He courted Almira, daughter of Thomas Hamrick and they were married in 1851 after he, Joseph, had been in the area for approximately two years. He and his family lived in the area of Section 1 or 12, Township 7, Range 15 E until he purchased the 160 acres of land near Collinsville. It is not known how Joseph came by the \$2,000 to purchase the 160 acres in 1863. It is known that in his life he raised horses and apparently he was an excellent farmer. He had to be to feed his brood of children. It is also known that Thomas Hamrick did not care for his son in law

Joseph Houston. Joseph and Almira eloped against her father's wishes.

There is no record of Joseph Houston serving in the Civil War. He is not listed as being called for induction. If he was in the horse breeding business during this period, he may have sold horses to the Confederate Army. No one knows if he used U. S. money or Confederate money to purchase the land in 1863. Thomas Hamrick, father of Almira, lost two sons in the Civil War.

Sometime before John C. Hamrick's death in 1856 he caused Joseph Houston to release a mule that Joseph was holding due to a debt by the owner of the mule to Joseph. The details of this are in the Circuit Court vertical files (unable to locate the exact reference as these files are presently being abstracted). Joseph released the mule. This reflects that Joseph respected John C. Hamrick and would not go against the wishes of John C. Hamrick.

As stated, more research is needed in regards to determining the real parents of Joseph L. Houston. It appears to the writer that Joseph was an orphan and that his father's name may have been <sup>or John</sup> Samuel. There were as previously stated a number of Samuel Houston's in Alabama and elsewhere.

The orphan possibility would reflect that Joseph L. Houston came to Lauderdale County where he had no relatives. Why was it that he did not seek out his own people when he returned from Texas? Had he been rejected by them? Was he bitter? Family legend has it that he liked to keep something "up in the air" and that he liked to "show off". Sometimes this may come about due to lack of attention.

Writer thinks that overall Joseph L. Houston's life was sad and hopes that further research will uncover his parents and people.

#### CONTINUED SUMMARY

It just may be true that Joseph was hidden for awhile and that in someway he was connected to Sam Houston.

Speculation: If in fact Joseph Luther Houston did come from Dallas County, Alabama, then there is some reason to believe that he perhaps knew, or knew of Sam Houston.

Dallas County joins Perry County. Marion is the county seat of Perry County. Marion is where Sam married Margaret Lea in 1840. There were a number of Houstons in the above area in 1840. Sam Houston could have been kin to at least some of these Houstons. The alleged connection of Joseph to Sam Houston could have come from this area originally and Sam Houston may have played a role in the farming out of Joseph. It could have been that Joseph's parents were deceased and Sam Houston helped -- not because Joseph was his son but because he, Sam Houston, was helping out a relative.

Sam Houston, as the legend goes could have brought Joseph to John C. Hamrick in Lauderdale County, MS from Alabama, not Texas. This part of the legend may be true.

Sam Houston travelled from Texas to Alabama to purchase horses and to seek financial support and on one of these trips he could have brought Joseph Luther Houston from Alabama to John C. Hamrick while returning to Texas.

It is felt that the result of this research is as follows: Joseph Luther Houston was not a son of the Sam Houston, that Joseph came from Tennessee through Alabama to Lauderdale County, MS. Future research in Alabama and Tennessee could bring more light on the subject especially after research on the siblings of the Sam Houston.